

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Notice of Allowance for the above-identified application mailed October 22, 2004. Applicant thanks the Examiner for a favorable review of this application.

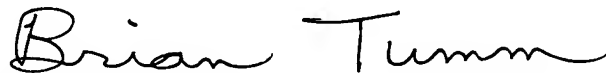
Applicant seeks to amend paragraph [0003] of the specification to reference the U.S. patent application corresponding to the Japanese Patent application listed therein. Further, the amendment addresses minor informalities in the paragraph.

As set forth by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance, the Japanese patent application has a publication date after the U.S. filing date of this application. Thus the Japanese application and the U.S. Publication are related applications, but not prior art.

The claims have not been amended and thus no additional search is required.

Accordingly, prompt entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian R. Tumm

BRT/ad

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL
& TANIS, P.C.
2026 Rambling Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1631
Phone: (269) 381-1156
Fax: (269) 381-5465

Dale H. Thiel	Reg. No. 24	323
David G. Boutell	Reg. No. 25	072
Ronald J. Tanis	Reg. No. 22	724
Terryence F. Chapman	Reg. No. 32	549
Mark L. Maki	Reg. No. 36	589
Liane L. Churney	Reg. No. 40	694
Brian R. Tumm	Reg. No. 36	328
Steven R. Thiel	Reg. No. 53	685
Donald J. Wallace	Reg. No. 43	977
Sidney B. Williams, Jr.	Reg. No. 24	949

Encl: Postal Card

165.10/03